

From: ["Zach Welcker" <ZWelcker@kalispeltribe.com>](mailto:ZWelcker@kalispeltribe.com)
To: ["Khatibi, Mehrdad" <khatibi.mehrdad@epa.gov>](mailto:khatibi.mehrdad@epa.gov)
Date: 7/13/2017 10:41:24 AM
Subject: Supp Info 3

Even more

From: (b) (6)
To: [AirQuality <AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com>](mailto:AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com)
Date:
Subject: Air quality

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They are just going through the motions and we HAVE NO REAL SAY IN THIS.
We will not be able to burn brush, fields, or have wood stoves. No more fires in the Lodge (teepee). You and your elders along with the rest of us will live cold in the winter during air inversions.

Eventually you will say goodbye to the campfires in the yard.
Using wood for back up heat in the winter will be almost unheard of. We had air inversions and stagnation many of the coldest days this last winter in North Pend Oreille.

It will be a catch 22. You can't get insurance with wood stoves but you can't rely on electric affordably heating the older homes in this county.
The mills small and large will slowly disappear.
Never again will concrete be mined and milled in North Pend Oreille. And NO I am not talking about the old mill that put dust in everyone's lungs and made the earth unable to be used for food plants.
Even the new concrete mills will not pass these new standards and be built in this county.
The pulp mill that we are all worried about closing will close sooner.
This will not attract business to this county. It will push it away and the only thing people will come here for will not sustain the way of life here. Just ask your local restraint owner or hotel owner.
If the tribe cared about this county they would of built their casino closer to their people so they could of benefited from the jobs.
Unpaved county roads will be closed to reduce dust and maintain compliance.

This will also affect your waste water up and down the county that is using aerators to stir your waste water to aid in evaporation.

The state and fed will say but we will help with those costs and sure they will.

But it will be at the loss of more control of your way of life from your tap and waste water, to river usage and all recreation.

Forestry will be impacted and the health of the forest will again suffer because of restrictions on them and the need to reduce forest fire fuel.

Grazing will be impacted too.

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- The report also states that there are approximately 400 Kalispel members, one third of which live on the reservation (roughly 133). Of this, 54% are under the age of 18 (72 approximate) which then leaves approximately 61 Kalispel adults making a decision that affects this entire County as well as our neighboring counties and states.

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To whom it may concern,

Our company, (b) (6), does NOT support any action to reclassify Stevens County from EPA Classification from Level 2 to Level 1 as it will directly impact our land development and home rental business.

We request the Kalispel Tribe forward or provide a copy of this email to the EPA or any other relevant government agency involved; however, you are not authorized to provide it or our email address to anyone else or 3rd person without our permission.

(b) (6)

10/11/2018

From: (b) (6)
To: [AirQuality <AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com>](mailto:AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com)
Date:
Subject: Air quality comments

To whom it concerns,

I am writing this to provide comment on the issue of moving to a class 1 designation. I see no need to place anything in this county under such strict rule. Even in an inversion our air quality is above most places in the state. I've seen first hand the hinderance this places on the agricultural and private land management. I believe that the views of few should not hinder the livelihood of those around them. This would be a kill switch for any manufacturing or production companies to move into this area, and that is what we need to become economically stable moving forward.

(b) (6)

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

From: (b) (6)
To: [AirQuality <AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com>](mailto:AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com)
Date:
Subject: Air quality comments

Seeing as how our air quality in this area is currently great. I am questioning why we need to change our status. Most of us only have wood heating in our homes. We don't have the financial resources to change over to any other form of heat. We need to be able to burn the slash we have to cut to keep our property safe from wild fires.

We live here in the area because we love it and don't want to pollute it. But there are things that must be done. My husband and I have personally cleaned up tons of litter from highways and the forest when we hike.

I think making this change would make it terribly hard to bring more industry and work here for the people that live here. If your goal is to drive people away then keep it up. But you need to realize that our dollars help the tribe in many ways. If we all leave the tribe will be the ones losing out.

My take on this is that ten percent of the local population is trying to make the laws and rules for the other 90 percent of us. Shame on you!

Thank you for your consideration.

(b) (6)

Sent from my iPad

From: (b) (6)
To: [AirQuality <AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com>](mailto:AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com)
Date:
Subject: air quality proposal (b) (6)

The short notice the tribe has given was intentional.
The tribe do not want community involvement.
They are not really required to listen to it.
The EPA makes the final decision and makes it based on whether the applicant followed the proper procedures when going thru the application phase.
If the Tribe has already made the decision (and I assume they have) and they follow protocol then that is ALL that is needed.

A public hearing is a farce and is part of the application and required by law, which is likely the only reason they are having it.

Licensing your vehicle will now require the emissions inspection in this county.
If you have a farm within 100 air miles of Usk, you are going to take this one up the bum. 100 miles goes over into other counties and states. How dare the tribe impose this on anyone else.

They are just going through the motions and we HAVE NO REAL SAY IN THIS.
We will not be able to burn brush, fields, or have wood stoves. No more fires in the Lodge (teepee). You and your elders along with the rest of us will live cold in the winter during air inversions.

Eventually you will say goodbye to the campfires in the yard.
Using wood for back up heat in the winter will be almost unheard of. We had air inversions and stagnation many of the coldest days this last winter in North Pend Oreille.

It will be a catch 22. You can't get insurance with wood stoves but you can't rely on electric affordably heating the older homes in this county.
The mills small and large will slowly disappear.
Never again will concrete be mined and milled in North Pend Oreille. And NO I am not talking about the old mill that put dust in everyone's lungs and made the earth unable to be used for food plants.
Even the new concrete mills will not pass these new standards and be built in this county.
The pulp mill that we are all worried about closing will close sooner.
This will not attract business to this county. It will push it away and the only thing people will come here for will not sustain the way of life here. Just ask your local restraint owner or hotel owner.
If the tribe cared about this county they would of built their casino closer to their people so they could of benefited from the jobs.
Unpaved county roads will be closed to reduce dust and maintain compliance.

This will also affect your waste water up and down the county that is using aerators to stir your waste water to aid in evaporation.

The state and fed will say but we will help with those costs and sure they will.
But it will be at the loss of more control of your way of life from your tap and waste water, to river usage and all recreation.
Forestry will be impacted and the health of the forest will again suffer because of restrictions on them and the need to reduce forest fire fuel.
Grazing will be impacted too.

I agree with someone else's comments that were posted on the internet whole heartedly and have listed them in detail below.

I am glad they were shared so the layman who cant understand most of what is in the proposal can comment intelligently.

The Kalispel Tribe of Indians have requested, as allowed by the Clean Air Act, to have this area reclassified from a Class 2 to a Class 1 air quality area. The classification from a Class 2 (which is what we are at right now and what most of the U.S. is at) to a Class 1 requires a 10% reduction in emissions. The emissions includes dust (unpaved county roads, winds blowing across a plowed field, smoke from your wood stove as well as “permitted” uses for industries based upon current state and/or federal standards). Forest Fires do not get included in emissions. Prescribed fires are not under the act. Does this mean the burning of slash for your own timber cutting?

The map shows the 100 km radius (as the crow flies) that would be included in this request. This Clean Air re-designation would include ALL of Pend Oreille County, ALL of Stevens County, parts of Ferry County, goes into Canada, Bonner and Boundary County and into Montana. The closer a parcel of land is to the reservation the more restrictive the requirements on emissions. Class 1 areas can increase the “impact zone” up to 250 miles. Class 1 re-designations require a minimum of 10% reductions in current emissions.

Although this is a federal program through the Environmental Protection Agency, the Washington State Department of Ecology monitors and sets standards for rural areas of Washington State. (Side note - That means once again the West side liberal agenda will control one more area of our lives.)

If a new business wants to come into the area they must use best control qualities available and they cannot take the emissions above the limits set with a Class 1 designation. There is a very technical review and there is an impact evaluation/analysis done on neighboring properties. There can be punitive action on those who violate the process.

The Pend Oreille Valley traps area, especially in winter with inversions. If things were to get too bad, then only “certified” wood stoves could be used unless wood is your ONLY source of heat. It won't be the Tribe that decides if you can use your wood stove, it will be the federal government, through the Washington State Department of Ecology. If emissions get too high during our inversions (foggy days) then something has to change- that's when you get announcements like your wood burning stoves cannot be used, businesses have to make changes to their emissions, etc. (Side note – are you going to tell PNC and Tech they cannot run until the inversion is gone – my question, but I have no answer to that. Again, it won't be the Tribe that gets to decide it will be the State enforcing federal law).

If an area exceeds standards three years in a row, then the feds get a plan to get the area back to below federal standards. This can mean things like vehicle emission testing and more.

Specifics mentioned at the meeting:

- Currently the County sands our roads in the winter. According to the DOE this can still be done but if there are problems with emissions meeting or exceeding the limits then the County must take action to reduce dust into the air (they already sweep either with water or when it rains, which helps eliminate the dust). If the County were to add more dirt roads, then other industries in the area would have to reduce their emissions output. This means increases in pollution controls for our existing businesses. Are these businesses going to stay if they have to make huge investments to keep operating?
- The Tribe's report talks about the Economic Region but that does not reflect Pend Oreille County alone – it uses generalizations which includes Spokane County which is growing. Pend Oreille County needs more businesses with living wages, not just minimum wage jobs. A re-classification can have an impact on Ponderay Newsprint, Vaagen's, Pend Oreille Mines and others that employ the citizens in Pend Oreille County.
- The report also states that there are approximately 400 Kalispel members, one third of which live on the reservation (roughly 133). Of this, 54% are under the age of 18 (72 approximate) which then leaves approximately 61 Kalispel adults making a decision that affects this entire County as well as our neighboring counties and states.
- The County revenues have increased in total 2% since 2012 but expenses have gone up 30%. Without new businesses to help offset this discrepancy we can expect either a reduction in county services and/or an increase in our taxes.

I don't know anyone who doesn't love our area including our water, forests and clean air and we want it to stay that way – the way it is now, which is Class 2. Most of us would love to have our kids grow up, live close, and be able to work in jobs which provide living wages (not minimum wage) and benefits. Without some common sense to this we won't be having new businesses even take a look at our County, and

surrounding areas. Who is going to pick up the taxes for services that are needed to maintain law enforcement, medical services, and road department services if we don't increase our business climate and property values? It is going to be those of us who live in the county paying the property taxes. Drive out existing businesses and you will be picking up the cost of power as well.

We will not be able to burn brush, fields, or have wood stoves. No more fires in the Lodge (teepee)

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From: (b) (6)
To: [AirQuality <AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com>](mailto:AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com)
Date:
Subject: Air Quality redesignation comments

6 April, 2007

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in response to the request to change the air quality designation of the Kalispel Reservation from a Class 2 designation to a Class 1 designation. In my review of this issue, I have determined that this is an ill-advised effort that will show to be rife with unintended consequences that will be significant to ALL residents of the area, tribal and non-tribal alike. Experience has shown when a single issue is allowed to dominate thinking and discussions; many other crucial factors are forced to change, generally with negative results. Additionally, I must add that while the consultants that were hired to write the technical report compiled a lengthy report, they did not hesitate to pick and choose information that met their objective while not comprehensively addressing the factors that do not support this redesignation request.

In this particular case, there is no one that will deny that having pure air is a good thing. That, however, is a simplistic statement that does not allow for the development of critical balances that must be recognized as necessary for support of a smoothly functioning society. A partial list of the balances that must be struck is: 1) the ability for employers in the affected area to remain competitive with employers outside of the affected area due to the cost of increased regulation; 2) the relocation of employers in total due to increased regulation (consider the number of companies leaving Southern California for Texas due to lower regulatory environment in Texas); 3) the impact on local social safety nets due to wage stagnation, wage reduction or employee lay-off due to employer actions to remain competitive from items 1 and 2 above; 4) the reduction of government services or increase in taxes to compensate for lost tax revenue due to employers leaving the area, lost jobs and/or reduced wages; 5) the social costs associated with perceptions that inevitably develop when a special cause is promoted by a single entity rather than a broad based coalition of parties. These cannot be adequately addressed with even a 237 page report and a comment period.

It is interesting to me that the report clearly identifies the adjudicated lands that the Kalispel Tribe feels is their native land beyond the current reservation. What is not addressed is why the justifications for the economic and social impacts are not associated at all with these lands but instead focus on the large metropolitan area sixty miles south of the reservation. Is it because the only way this redesignation can be justified is to ride on the success of a large population center so that specific analyses cannot be performed or be made to appear as not necessary or are simply a diversion from the socioeconomic success (read failures) on the reservation? Look at Section 4.4.2 and specifically 4.4.2.2 where it is stated, "There currently are no proposed facilities seeking air quality permits that might be impacted by Class I redesignation of the Kalispel Reservation. That makes the analysis of how a Class I redesignation might or might not limit a particular type of economic activity in the economic region speculative." This is disingenuous to make a statement like this but then build the entire case for either no economic impact or actual improvement with no more data than that the significantly sized and distant off-reservation area has been growing for 40 years so it is not likely that much harm can come from this or it can be absorbed. Further, considering the Spokane area as the Kalispel Reservation Economic Area, even limiting it to the North Spokane area, (see 4.4.2.1 ¶ 1, 4.4.2.2 ¶ 2 and many others) is a display of incredible hubris. Along these same lines, why did the tribe open a casino on NON-TRIBAL lands and why are they now trying to stop another tribe from doing the same thing? If the Kalispel Tribe

really has so much economic impact that they can legitimately refer to the Greater Spokane area as their Economic Area, why wasn't Northern Quest built in Cusick? This whole thing smacks of selfishness to use special treatment so as to be the only ones who can have their cake and eat it too.

Having even a few employers in an area that pay higher wages is significant to the overall economic health of the area. Keeping them there is critical for everyone in the area, even if they do not work directly for those employers. In the Newport area, Zodiac Aerospace is one of those types of employers. (b) (6) I know that Zodiac Aerospace walks a fine line to pay well and yet remain competitive with a proliferation of low-cost international aerospace suppliers. I think that this, in large part, is a testament to the work ethic of the people in this area. The point here is that it would not take a lot of increased regulatory costs to make Zodiac Aerospace's operation here unprofitable and lead their parent corporation to relocate their work. I have worked where even leaving a cap off of a squirt bottle of solvent while wiping down a part results in a \$300 plus dollar fine due to Class 1 air quality requirements. I also have first-hand experience working (b) (6) where regulation has depressed wages to the point that highly skilled welders working on critical titanium flight hardware are being paid less than \$15.00 per hour. I have no idea how anyone can live in that area on those wages and I would hate to see Pend Oreille County wages become similarly depressed due to regulation causing an employer to choose between paying a good wage and staying in business. The technical report states that it is very unlikely that this redesignation will affect current employers; however, the writers of this report have no power or authority to make that guarantee. Once the change is made and this area becomes a Class 1 Air Quality area, the decisions will be out of local hands and will be determined as government employees interpret the regulations. **DO NOT BELIEVE ANY PROMISES OF FUTURE GUARANTEES BY ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY OR INDIVIDUAL OR SPECIAL INTEREST REPRESENTATIVE. YOU WILL HAVE NO CONTROL AND LITTLE IF ANY LEGAL STANDING TO CHALLENGE FUTURE INTERPRETATIONS OF THE REGULATIONS!**

The technical report, in an apparent effort to build credibility and influence of the tribe, considers the counties of Spokane, Stevens and Pend Oreille as the "Kalispel Reservation Economic Area". Why is it not called the Spokane Reservation Economic Area? After all, the Spokane Tribe Reservation is 10 miles closer to Spokane than the Kalispel Reservation. Why not just admit that the Greater Spokane area is not beholden to the tribes and that the tribes do not influence the economy of the area and so remove from this report the inferences that the Kalispel Reservation has any real influence on the Greater Spokane area other than the money removed from the area through its off-reservation gambling operation? In section 3.8 paragraph 5 of the report, the writers attempt to claim that there are 5,400 workers that commute from Stevens and Pend Oreille counties into Spokane and that somehow makes the Kalispel petition to redesignate the air quality standard more acceptable because of the wages that are brought into those counties. How is this a positive future effect when the likelihood of automobile emission standards being tightened and testing put in place increases and will also affect people that do not commute outside of their local area? How does this help low income residents of these counties when they are forced to purchase newer cars to meet standards because their old car still runs but is too expensive to repair to the point of meeting newer standards? The money brought as wages into Stevens and Pend Oreille counties will go right back to Spokane when rural residents are coerced into purchasing newer vehicles. If you wish to argue that this will not happen, please refer to the last two sentences of the paragraph above. It has happened elsewhere and will happen here if this redesignation is allowed.

Addressing even the partial list I made in the first paragraph would be exceptionally time consuming to address and what little I have had time to state here certainly shows how involved these impacts become. In my undergraduate education, I spent some time studying environmental economics and so am somewhat conversant with the issues at hand. In general, industry has come to recognize the economic value of limiting pollutant emissions either by converting them to a useful product, mitigating their production or lastly filtering them. Industry is also incentivized to not become the poster child for social and environmental irresponsibility. Given these conditions of complexity of the problems and

industry's general desire to be responsible, it is most definitely in everyone's best interest to find a solution outside of government intervention. The closer the solution can be created to and by those affected by it, the more effective and less onerous it will be.

Growing up in the (b) (6) area, I am familiar with widespread temperature inversions that blanket the (b) (6) for weeks at a time and the concern for air quality. There are usually smaller areas that are more impacted by the inversions than other areas, generally, in the winter time because of a higher residential concentration where wood burning for heat is more prevalent. I also found this to be the case in the (b) (6) where I lived for over (b) (6). Interestingly enough, the government air quality regulations allow for those with wood as their sole source of heat to continue to use wood heat regardless of the air quality. I suspect that the major source of the measured air quality issues in the Cusick and Usk area is from wood heating being done in a relatively small zone of the Pend Oreille River valley. It is most definitely not the full 60 mile radius impact zone (or larger if regulators are unsatisfied with results) that the regulation change would create. Perhaps, rather than relying on the heavy hand of government regulation with its certain followers of ill consequences, the Kalispel Tribe should consider developing, promoting or leading an effort to incentivize making changes to mitigate the development of poor air quality in the first place. Through identification of the specific sources of poor air quality and then assisting in ways that provide an economic benefit for reducing or eliminating the pollutant, the tribe would receive the air quality benefit they desire without being seen as significant social disruptor.

By way of disclosure, I am a (b) (6) from the (b) (6) Industry and have seen the cause and effects of this type of action in multiple areas over the course of my career. I chose to retire to the Newport area mostly because of the life-style, the general attitude of self-reliance of the population, their independence and yet their willingness to assist and help their neighbors. I have found this with my neighbors as well as with Pend Oreille County officials (which has been exceptionally refreshing). I would hate for this area to begin drifting toward the same social values (i.e. let government fix all of the problems) as have been repeatedly shown to be detrimental to personal responsibility, individual freedom and happiness.

Sincerely yours,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
To: [AirQuality <AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com>](mailto:AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com)
Date:
Subject: Air Quality Redesignation

Dear Sirs,

After reviewing the Air Quality Redesignation Document I have several concerns about the potential scope and impact of the proposed Redesignation. For the sake of clarity and brevity, I will address two of these concerns that seem to be of primary importance.

Quoting from the Executive Summary of the Redesignation Document:

"The Kalispel Tribe of Indians (Kalispel Tribe) is proposing to redesignate the Kalispel Indian Reservation (Reservation) a Class I air quality area under the Clean Air Act's Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) program. The purpose of this redesignation is to obtain and provide the most stringent air quality protections available under the PSD program to better protect air quality on and near the Reservation. Protecting air quality is critical to furthering the Tribe's sovereign interest in protecting its people, as well as its natural and cultural resources."

According to this statement the purpose for the Redesignation is to "protect air quality", on the Kalispel Reservation but the "Kalispel Reservation Economic Area" map at the end of the document is drawn purely on political lines. It does not include any of the State of Idaho or the Province of British Columbia, both of which are closer to the Kalispel Reservation than other areas on the map, and obviously, could potentially impact air quality on the Reservation. Indeed, the map is neatly confined to the political borders of Spokane, Stevens, and Pend Oreille Counties. This is a classical case of "bait and switch" where the supposed purpose is based on environmental criteria, but the actual purpose is political and economic. This brings me to my second concern.

The political boundary of the Kalispel Reservation is very clearly defined, and as someone who is not a Kalispel, and who does not live within the Reservation Boundary, this part of the world is simply not any of my business, unless it encroaches on my land and my home. My point here is very clear. The redesignation of air quality on the Kalispel Reservation has nothing to do with environmental concern and everything to do with political and economic manipulation and control. In other words, you are attempting to encroach on my land and my home. This is a recipe for continuous conflict that does not benefit anyone in the long run. I suggest you reconsider.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Sent from Mail for Windows 10